



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Assistant COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/931,288	08/16/2001	Robert Wesley Bossemeyer	20103/A00623	2228
83417	7590	01/27/2009		
AT&T Legal Department - ATTN. Patent Docketing			EXAMINER	
One AT&T Way			CHO, HONG SOL	
Room 2A-207				
Bedminster, NJ 07921			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2419	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			01/27/2009	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/931,288	Applicant(s) BOSSEMEYER ET AL.
	Examiner Hong Cho	Art Unit 2419

— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 January 2009.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-6 and 13-26 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) 21 is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-6, 13-20 and 22-26 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The following is in response to the amendments filed on 01/12/2009. Claims 23-26 have been added. Claims 1-6 and 13-26 are pending in the instant application.

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 01/12/2009 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1 and 22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Strauss et al (US 6272126), hereinafter referred to as Strauss in view of Valencia (US 6487598).

Re claims 1 and 22-24, Strauss discloses connecting a telephone to a data telephony interface of the home gateway system; detecting a dialing of a destination telephone number; triggering on a call request at a switch of the home gateway system and sending a query to a processor of the home gateway system; receiving a reply from the processor including a telephone number of an internet service provider; establishing a telephony connection with the internet service provider based on the telephone number of the internet service provider in response to the dialing of the destination telephone number; and sending a message to the internet service provider including the destination telephone number (column 12, lines 11-32). Strauss fails to disclose a home gateway system located at a subscriber household. Valencia discloses a home gateway connected to a local area network and allowing a connection to an internet service provider (figure 1, element 20). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Strauss with the teaching of Valencia for the benefit of providing secure communications by restricting unauthorized users.

Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Strauss in view of Valencia and further in view of Ng et al (US 6243376), hereinafter referred to as Ng.

Re claim 2, Strauss discloses all of claim limitations of a base claim but fails to disclose digitizing an audio signal, packetizing the digitized signal to form a plurality of

outgoing packets and transmitting the plurality of outgoing packets to the ISP. Ng discloses converting voice signals into a data packet format suitable for transmission over the Internet (column 3, lines 60-63). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Strauss to convert an audio signal to a data packet so that a voice call is connected over the Internet through ISP. The motivation is to use Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) that converts a traditional voice signal into a stream of packets that are distributed over a packet network so that packet switched network is utilized to support voice calling system.

Re claim 3, Strauss discloses all of claim limitations of a base claim, but fails to disclose receiving a plurality of incoming packets from the ISP, converting the plurality of incoming packets into an incoming audio signal and connecting the incoming audio signal to the telephone. Ng discloses processing the incoming data packet format into audio signals reproducible as voice through the phone (column 3, lines 63-66). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Strauss to convert a data packet back to an audio signal so that a voice call is connected over the Internet through ISP. The motivation is to use VoIP that converts a stream of packets back into traditional voice signal to support conventional telephone system.

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Strauss in view of Valencia and further in view of Lin et al (US 6791952), hereinafter referred to as Lin.

Re claim 4, Strauss discloses all limitations of the base claim, but fails to disclose establishing a wireless local loop connection to a base station (BS) and connecting the BS to the ISP. Lin discloses a BS, which is connected to the ISP (figure 4; column 9, lines 5-6), serving a plurality of subscriber radio terminals through wireless access link (figure 4, elements 410 and 411; column 8, lines 42-45). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Strauss to implement Lin's wireless Internet access system to provide efficient provision of asymmetric data services.

Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Strauss in view of Valencia and further in view of Ng and Gerszberg et al (US 6542500), hereinafter referred to as Gerszberg.

Re claim 5, Strauss discloses all limitations of the base claim, but fails to disclose compressing the digitized signal. Gerszberg discloses compressing IP packets and the voice (column 27, lines 63-66). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Strauss to implement the function of Gerszberg's processor to compress digitized signal to conserve additional amount of bandwidth.

Re claim 6, Strauss discloses all limitations of the base claim, but fails to disclose determining a priority of the plurality of outgoing data packets and when the priority is low, storing the plurality outgoing packets until all of a high priority data packets have been transmitted. Gerszberg discloses the processor in the Intelligent Services Director

(ISD) configured to discriminate between the various forms of traffic (*determining a priority of the plurality of outgoing data packets*) and distributing high priority packets from one or more priority queues (*when the priority is low, storing the plurality outgoing packets until all of a high priority data packets have been transmitted*, column 19, lines 54-65). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Strauss to implement the function of Gerszberg's processor to provide guaranteed bandwidth and latency service by distributing packets based on priority scheme.

Claims 13, 25 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Clarke, Jr et al (US 6021419), hereinafter referred to as Clarke, in view of Robin et al (US 6317884, "Robin")

Re claim 13, Clarke discloses a transceiver; a switch connected to the transceiver; a processor connected to the switch; and a router connected to the switch, the router to receive a data packet from an internal port with an external address, the router to send a request to the processor to establish a communication session with an internet service provider, and the processor to direct the transceiver to establish a telephony connection with the internet service provider (figure 1a; column 1, lines 26-55). Clarke fails to disclose a home gateway system coupled to a plurality of telephones in the subscriber site. Robin discloses a system coupled to a plurality of telephones in the subscriber site (figure 1, element 12). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Clarke with the teaching of

Robin in connecting a home gateway system to a plurality of telephones for the benefit of serving a plurality of users via one gateway system.

Re claim 25, Clarke discloses the connection with the internet service provider is a telephony connection (column 1, lines 30-33).

Re claim 26, Clarke implicitly discloses the internal port comprises an RJ11 interface to couple the telephone to the home gateway system.

Claims 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Clarke in view of Robin and further in view of Lin.

Re claims 14 and 15, Clarke discloses all of the limitations of the base claim, but fails to disclose establishing a wireless local loop connection to a base station through an asymmetric data channel. Lin discloses establishing a wireless local loop connection to a base station through an asymmetric data channel (figure 4; column 8, lines 53-56). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Clarke with the system of Lin for the benefit of providing wireless communications.

Claims 16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Clarke in view of Robin and further in view of Gerszberg.

Re claims 16 and 17, Clarke discloses all limitations of the base claim, but fails to disclose receiving the request from a television processing system for an information service provider request and sending received information over a channel to a television.

Gerszberg discloses providing CATV services to subscribers (figure 5; column 7, lines 59-62). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Clarke to implement a television processing system of Gerszberg to provide integrate services so that any requested information would be available based on subscriber preferences.

Re claim 18, Clarke discloses all limitations of the base claim, but fails to disclose television system receiving an email request, directing the processor to download an email and sending the email over the selected channel of the television. Gerszberg discloses providing email services (column 24, lines 24-26). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Clarke to provide email services by Gerszberg's television processing system so that wide range of telephony services are accessed based on users' preference for communication over the Internet.

Re claim 19, Clarke discloses all limitations of the base claim, but fails to disclose an emergency broadcast network receiver connected to the television processing system. Gerszberg discloses providing emergency services (column 14, lines 57-67). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Clarke to provide emergency services by Gerszberg's television processing system for providing a faster emergency broadcast over the Internet.

Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Clarke in view of Robin and further in view of Ng.

Re claim 20, Clarke discloses all limitations of the base claim, but fails to disclose home gateway system including a voice mail system. Ng discloses the Internet phone with a voice mail system. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Clarke to implement a voice mail system of Ng to provide integrate services including telephony and Internet services.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claim 21 is allowed.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hong Cho whose telephone number is 571-272-3087. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri during 7 am to 4 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wing Chan can be reached on 571-272-7493. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Hong Cho/

Hong Cho
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2419
1/23/09